

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 649

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD CZ

SUBJECT: BILATERAL TEXTILE AGREEMENT

REFS: (A) STATE 135111 (B) PRAGUE 0769

1. EMBOFF DISCUSSED PROPOSED CHANGE WITH MERCL, FEDERAL MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE, JULY 9. MERCL PRESENTED REVISED EDITION OF EARLIER GOC PROPOSED LANGUAGE (REF B) WHICH DIFFERES IN THREE RESPECTS.

A) IN INTRODUCTORY PARAGRAPH, THE PHRASE "HERINAFTER CALLED THE ARRANGEMENT" IS OMITTED.

B) THE FIRST SENTENCE OF PARAGRAPH 2 READS "THE UNITED STATES AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA WILL CONTINUE IN THEIR TRADE IN COTTON, WOOL AND MAN-MADE FIBRE TEXTILES AND APPAREL PRODUCTS".

C) FURTHER IN THE SAME PARAGRAPH, THE TERM ARRANGEMENT IS EXPANDED TO READ "ARRANGEMENT REGARDING INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN TEXTILES SIGNED ON DECEMBER 20, 1973 AT GENEVA".

2. THE FULL TEXT, AS REVISED BY THE GOC READS:

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WITH REFERENCE TO ARTILE 2 AND 6 OF THE

ARRANGEMENT REGARDING INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN TEXTILES, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA REVIEWED HER TRADE IN TEXTILES WITH THE CZECHOSLOVAK SOCIALIST REPUBLIC. AS A RESULT OF THIS REVIEW, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES HAS PROPOSED THE FOLLOWING UNDERSTANDING:

"1/ THE EXISTING BILATERAL AGREEMENT ON TRADE IN COTTON TEXTILES, AS SIGNED AT WASHINGTON ON AUGUST 29, 1969, AS AMENDED, SHALL BE TERMINATED.

2/ THE UNITED STATES AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA WILL CONTINUE IN THEIR TRADE IN COTTON, WOOL AND MANMADE MADE FIBRE TEXTILES AND APPAREL PRODUCTS. SHOULD THESE PRODUCTS FROM CZECHOSLOVAKIA TO THE UNITED STATES DEVELOP IN SUCH A MANNER SO AS TO CAUSE OR THREATEN TO CAUSE IN THE UNITED STATES PROBLEMS OF MARKET DISRUPTION AS DEFINED IN THE ARRANGEMENT REGARDING INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN TEXTILES SIGNED ON DECEMBER 20, 1973 AT GENEVA, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES MAY REQUEST CONSULTATIONS WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK SOCIALIST REPUBLIC. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK SOCIALIST REPUBLIC AGREES TO RESPOND WITHIN 30 DAYS TO SUCH A REQUEST FOR CONSULTATIONS AND TO CONSULT WITHIN 60 DAYS THEREAFTER / UNLESS OTHERWISE MUTUALLY AGREED / TO ARRIVE AT AN EARLY SOLUTION ON MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY TERMS ON THE BASIS NOT LESS FAVORABLE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF TRADE THAN THAT PROVIDED BY THE ARRANGEMENT.

"THIS UNDERSTANDING SHALL COME INTO FORCE ON THE DATE OF ITS CONFIRMATION BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK SOCIALIST REPUBLIC THROUGH THE DIPLOMATIC NOTE."

3. EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT NEW GOC TEXT MEETS OBJECTIONS RAISED BY REF (A) AND DOES NOT RAISE NEW ISSUES. WE CONSEQUENTLY RECOMMEND THAT NEW LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LANGUAGE BE ACCEPTED AND THIS PARTICULAR BILATERAL ISSUE BE RESOLVED.

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